



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**WOLFEBORO MAN SENTENCED FOR INTERFERING WITH FLIGHT CREW**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Nevada United States Attorney Daniel Bogden today announced that Mark Boyce, 54, of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, was sentenced by United States District Judge Steven McAuliffe to one year probation and a \$5,000 fine. Boyce pleaded guilty on January 16, 2004 to one count of interfering with a member of a flight crew.

The charge against Boyce arose out of a July 17, 2003, incident during a flight from Baltimore, Maryland, to Las Vegas, Nevada, on Southwest Airlines flight #922. Boyce, was traveling with two other individuals. As the flight was approaching the Las Vegas Airport, the fasten seat belt sign was illuminated and passengers were directed to remain in their seats until the plane was safely at the gate. One of the individuals traveling with Boyce left her seat and headed towards a lavatory at the rear of the plane. A flight crew member asked her to return to her seat. The individual became verbally abusive. Boyce then joined the altercation and also verbally abused the flight crew member. After returning to their seats, Boyce and the individuals he was traveling with engaged in a verbal dispute with two passengers traveling with their teenage children. Boyce attempted to grab one of the children and threatened the child and his father. Boyce was indicted in the District of Nevada, but agreed to have the case resolved in the District of New Hampshire.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "Air transportation is an important part of our national economy and an important part of our everyday lives. Citizens who travel by air have a right to expect that we will treat seriously any disruption that occurs during the flight of a commercial carrier. Citizens must have confidence that when they travel by air, their government is doing the best that it can to assure their safety. Accordingly, my office is committed to prosecuting those who interfere in any way with any member of a flight crew and, in doing so, endanger the safety of the aircraft and its passengers."

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Litigation Counsel Don Feith.